



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TRUCKER HAULING UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS SENTENCED TO 30 MONTHS IMPRISONMENT

TUCSON, ARIZONA –The United States Attorneys Office for the District of Arizona, announced that on June 9, 2003, Frank Oceguera, Jr., DOB September 24, 1951, of Edcough, Texas, was sentenced to 30 months in prison and fined \$2,000 by United States District Judge Cindy K. Jorgenson in Tucson, Arizona for hauling 32 undocumented immigrants in the back of his tractor-trailer.

On May 17, 2002, United States Border Patrol agents at an Interstate 19 checkpoint in Rio Rico, Arizona, encountered an 18 wheel tractor-trailer being driven by professional truck driver Frank Oceguera, Jr. A subsequent inspection of the trailer revealed that Mr. Oceguera was hauling 32 undocumented immigrants, including women and children, along with a few pallets of fruit. The trailer's temperature was 46 degrees Fahrenheit and all of the occupants were only wearing light clothing. Mr. Oceguera subsequently admitted that he was to be paid for transporting all 32 undocumented immigrants and, in doing so, he placed their lives in jeopardy.

On February 13, 2003, Frank Oceguera, Jr. entered a plea of guilty to Transportation of Illegal Aliens in violation of Title 8 United States Code, sections 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii) and 1324(a)(1)(B)(i), and 1324(a)(1)(B)(iii).

(MORE)

The investigation in this case was conducted by Special Agents of the United States Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection.

The prosecution was handled by Jeffrey H. Jacobson, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-02-918-TUC-CKJ
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